

**SAL ESQUIVEL**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 6



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
900 COURT ST NE  
SALEM, OREGON 97301

Committees:  
Vice-Chair:  
Business and Labor  
Member:  
Education, Ethics, and Rules

November 4, 2011

The Honorable Greg Walden  
2182 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Expanding Broadband in Southern Oregon

Dear Congressman Walden:

As you know, I take pride in representing the 6<sup>th</sup> District and Southern Oregon in Salem. I am a fierce champion for our small businesses, our schools, our seniors and our communities. I am proud supporter of policies that enhance either of the afore mentioned sectors and, if there is a commonsense policy we can promote that enhances the entire lot, you can be sure it will have my support.

I believe expanding broadband is one of those policies that can help every segment of our communities. While big cities may take high speed internet for granted, in many rural communities it is a luxury, as it is in more rural Oregon where broadband can have the greatest impact.

We take pride in our high quality of life in rural Oregon and broadband will open up opportunities for people who wish to retain that quality of life while succeeding while accessing outside opportunities.

Education opportunities, business opportunities, and telemedicine are just a few doors that broadband can open for rural communities. Opportunities to expand broadband in Oregon and America should be seized which is why I am urging you to support LightSquared and its efforts to invest \$14 billion and generate at least 15,000 jobs each year during its building of a new, next-generation wireless broadband network across the country.

A LightSquared network not only means more coverage, it means more competition. As a wholesale-only network, LightSquared enables any carrier, consumer electronics manufacturer, Internet content provider, or business that can commoditize a low-cost / high-quality wireless broadband service to enter the wireless market. LightSquared will not only expand access, it will increase much-needed competition in the wireless industry thereby benefiting consumers.

It is time to close the digital divide and bring the quality and the speed enjoyed by internet users in big cities to rural Oregon and rural America. I hope you will support LightSquared's efforts to bring choice

and affordable mobile wireless options to Southern Oregon and urge your colleagues in Congress to do the same.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sal Esquivel", is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Representative Sal Esquivel

Cc:

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554